

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 03039 171415Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 HA-05 USIE-00 H-01 SP-02  
NSCE-00 SS-15 SSO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10  
NSAE-00 PA-01 INRE-00 /050 W  
-----068754 171443Z /41  
O 171401Z FEB 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5954

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BONN 03039

FOR EUR/CE - LAUDERDALE AND L/ECP - MAURER

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CPRS, ACLM, GW  
SUBJECT: NEW FRG LEGISLATION FOR HEALTH COMPENSATION  
FOR NAZI VICTIMS

REF: STATE 37843

1. EMBASSY HAS CHECKED WITH FRG FOREIGN OFFICE REP (WARTER, LEGAL SECTION) WHO CONFIRMED PROMULGATION OF AMENDMENT TO FRG RESTITUTION LEGISLATION ON SEPTEMBER 24, 1977 WITH GENERAL EFFECT ALONG LINES OF MEMORANDUM QUOTED IN REFTEL. AMENDMENT PROVIDES FOR SIX-MONTH FILING DEADLINE FROM DATE OF PROMULGATION (THUS: MARCH 24, 1978).

2. LENGTHY PREPARATION OF CIRCULAR INSTRUCTION TO FRG OVERSEAS POSTS AND REQUISITE COORDINATION BETWEEN FRG FONOFF AND FINANCE MINISTRY CULMINATED IN CIRCULAR INSTRUCTION TO THOSE POSTS DATED FEBRUARY 7, 1978, TRANSMITTED FEBRUARY 15.

3. EMBASSY IS PREPARING EXPLANATORY SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS OF AMENDMENT PREPARED BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FRG BUNDESRAT AND WILL BE TRANSMITTING THEM ASAP  
SLUGGED FOR EUR/CE AND L/ECP.

4. FOREIGN OFFICE REP STATED THAT URO AND OTHER INTEREST GROUPS WERE INSTRUMENTAL IN PROMOTING PREPARATION AND PASSAGE OF HEIS AMENDMENT. GERMAN AUTHORITIES DID NOT WISH BY COPIOUS PUBLICITY TO MAKE THIS AMENDMENT

APPEAR TO HELP MORE THAN SMALL NUMBER OF PERSONS IT AFFECTS, AND WISHED TO AVOID FLOOD OF INQUIRIES FROM PERSONS NOT AFFECTED. THUS, FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DECIDED NOT TO GIVE THESE LIMITED AMENDMENTS WIDE PUBLICITY, BELIEVING THAT QUALIFYING CLAIMANTS WOULD LEARN OF IT VIA THESE INTEREST GROUPS. WHILE THIS ASSUMPTION MAY BE LARGELY CORRECT, POSSIBILITY OF NON-NOTICE TO SOME POTENTIAL CLAIMANTS, WHO WILL BE BARRED FROM FILING CLAIMS AFTER MARCH 24, MAY MAKE IT DESIRABLE FOR DEPARTMENT TO ISSUE PRESS RELEASE AFTER POSSIBLE COORDINATION WITH FRG EMBASSY.

5. WE SHALL INFORMALLY EXPRESS TO FONOFF OUR PUZZLEMENT THAT USG'S ATTENTION WAS NOT LONG AGO DRAWN TO ENACTMENT OF THIS AMENDMENT IN VIEW OF KNOWN CONCENTRATION OF RESTITUTION CLAIMANTS IN US AND USG RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP THEM INFORMED OF LEGAL DEVELOPMENTS THAT COULD AFFECT THEIR RIGHTS. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE ARE PUZZLED THAT URO AND SIMILAR GROUPS DID NOT DIRECTLY RAISE THIS MATTER WITH DEPARTMENT MONTHS AGO.  
MEEHAN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 feb 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978BONN03039  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** CPRS, ACLM, GE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014